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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9013
INFO RUEHKE/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 1260
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0294
RUEHLU/AMEMBASSY LUANDA 0904
RUEHNJ/AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA 0379
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0786
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0639

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 000261

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KINSHASA PASS BRAZZAVILLE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/21/2016

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SUBJECT: SAO TOME PRESIDENT NOMINATES PRIME MINISTER AND
CABINET

REF: LIBREVILLE 0216.

Classified By: POLITICAL OFFICER GLENN FEDZER FOR REASON 1.4 (B)

11. (U) President Fradique Menezes has appointed Tome da
Vera Cruz as Sao Tome's new Prime Minister. He and other
members of the cabinet are scheduled to be sworn in 3 PM
April 21. Other nominations include:

Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and
Finance--Mario dos Santos Tebus Torres

Minister of Public Works--Delfim Santiago das Neves

Minister of Justice--Justino Tavares da Veiga

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation--Carlos Gustavo
dos Anjos

Minister of Economy--Maria Cristina Dias

Minister of State Government Reform and Territorial
Affairs--Armando Aguiar

Minister of Defense--Oscar Aguiar Sacramento e Sousa

Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment--Manuel de
Deus Lima

Minister of Work, Solidarity, Women's Affairs, and
Family--Maria de Cristo Hilario da Costa

Minister of Education, Culture, and Sports--Maria de Fatima
Leite de Sousa Almeida

Minster of Health--Arlindo D'Assuncao Vicente de Carvalho.

12. (C) Comment: The stability of the new government is far
from assured. The MDFM/PCD coalition from which these
ministers have been selected control only 23 of the 55 seats
in the National Assembly, and neither the ADI with 11 seats,
nor the MLSTP, with 20, have agreed to support the new
government and its agenda. President Menezes risks political
paralysis and/or a constitutional crisis by moving forward
with a minority government (reftel). The constitution
forbids the dissolution of the National Assembly within 12
months of an election...and declares that a government falls
if it fails to get Assembly approval for its legislative
program.

[13.](#) (U) Post will send further comments/bio notes septel.
WALKLEY